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Reva Wulf Inspires Establishment of Native Scholarship, Inc. for Alaskans

An Athabascan Indian girl's eagerness for a college education has led to the establishment of Alaska Native Scholarship, Inc., a non-profit New York organization designed to assist her and other Alaskans.

Gerald Egelston, manager of educational services for Lederle Laboratories of Pearl River, N.Y., founder and principal promoter of the special fund, revealed its existence February 23 in hope of expanding it.

Returning to Anchorage

for his eleventh year as coordinator for the annual post-graduate medical symposium sponsored by the Anchorage Medical Society. Egelston has also served as a judge in the Miss Alaska contest for nine years.

The scholarship idea crystallized last February when the judges were interviewing contestants," explained Egelston.

"Miss Reva Wulf, an Athabascan girl from Shageluk, and Miss Bethel for 1967, told us it was her ambition to complete college and become a lawyer, but she was short of funds. I was impressed with her sincerity and decided to find a way to help."

Prime targets for Egelston's sales pitch on assisting worthy young Alaskans have been leading medical educators with whom he works across the nation in arranging symposia.

As a result, Alaska Native Scholarship sent \$600 to the University of Alaska last

fall for Miss Wulf's first semester as a sophomore.

"We now have enough funds to assist only one deserving student a year," said Egelston. "We'll welcome additional contributions so we can expand our range."

Probably unknown to her, Miss Wulf's benefactors include medical educators from Creighton University, University of Pennsylvania, Jefferson Medical College, University of Cincinnati, University of Minnesota, Tulane University and an Anchorage physician, all of whom have joined Egelston and his wife as charter members of Alaska Native Scholarship.

"Under terms of our charter, the scholarship funds can be used solely to educate native-born Alaskans," Egelston explained. Applicants will be selected by the seven to nine-member board of directors. The only academic requirement is that recipients maintain a "B" average.

"We would hope that the students selected attend either Alaska Methodist University or the University of Alaska. Assistance is not limited to undergraduate work," said the organization president.

If the organization is dissolved, all remaining funds will be divided equally between the University of Alaska and Alaska Methodist University.

"I think the native people have great need and potential for leadership, and our only purpose is to help a bit in developing it," said Egelston.

Anyone willing to join the New York executive and his pet project can get full details by writing Alaska Native Scholarship, Inc., 45 Little Tor Road North, New York, N.Y. 10956.

Grandparent Program

The Foster Grandparent Program in Adair County, Okla., reports it a resounding success. Its monthly payroll of about \$2400 has helped the whole community, and in addition has raised the living standards of the elderly "grandparents" considerably.

But in a financial report which each one prepared, their improved economic circumstances rated only second to their interest in, and involvement with the children.

Most reported that their health has improved too. One grandparent wrote:

"If I continue to work as a Foster Grandparent, I will soon become ineligible for my Old Age Pension check, as I get younger each day that I work with my children."

Anaktuvuk Pass Radio Repaired

The Anaktuvuk Pass radio transmitter has been repaired. The radio owned by the State and located at the State school in the village, had broken down sometime in December according to Roosevelt Paneak.

The village was without outside communication since that time and the villagers were anxious because they needed it in case of emergencies.

The villagers also thought that they might have prevented the forced landing of a plane about a month ago if the radio had been working. The plane attempted to bring fuel oil to the village but couldn't land because of inclement weather.

The radio, although weak in signals, gives Anaktuvuk Pass some communication.

Northern Native Arts Exhibition

The public is cordially invited to attend the exhibit of "Twenty Five Centuries of Northern Native Arts," dedicated to the memory of Mertie Baggen, and sponsored by the Alaska Assn. for the Arts.

The exhibit will open Thursday March 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center Art Gallery in Alaskaland. It will also be open on Friday evening from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. and again on Sunday March 10th from 3 to 6 PM.

A reception will be held Sunday during the Art-in-Action program in the Gallery when Isaac Koyuk, John Penatac, and Bernard Katexac sculpt in ivory and wood.

National Indian Alcoholism Meet

Plans for the 3rd Annual Conference and Training Session on Indian Alcoholism to be held in Dulce, New Mexico on June 13 and 14 are being completed, according to Charlie Vigil, Chairman of the Jicarilla Apache Tribe.

"We feel that this year's conference will be better than last year's session," Vigil said.

The 1967 Conference, also held in Dulce, New Mexico, had a record breaking registration of 263 registrants, representing ten States, Washington, D. C. and the province of Alberta, Canada. In addition, twenty-five different Tribes were represented.

Top authorities in the field of Indian Alcoholism are being scheduled to appear, as well as other panelists and speakers from various Indian Tribes across the nation.

Brochures will be available in March and can be obtained by writing Secretary, Alcoholism Conference, P.O. Box 312, Dulce, New Mexico.

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